SECTION 19 Reference Plan Guidelines (r)

WELFARE-TO-WORK (WTW) GRANT PROGRAM

19.1 Welfare-to-Work (WtW) Grant Program

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 included, as part of the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant, the WtW Grant Program. The WtW Grant Program is designed to provide additional dollars to complement the TANF Program. The WtW Grant Program is administered by the Department of Labor (DOL) whose purpose is to provide WtW Grants to states and local communities to create additional job opportunities for individuals who are the hardest-to-employ. All individuals who are served under the WtW Grant Program must be linked to receiving TANF benefits. Stanislaus County Community Services Agency (CSA) will collaborate with the local PIC to serve qualifying individuals under the WtW Grant Program.

19.1.1 Certification:

- The county will certify to the WtW Grant partners that the individual who has been referred for WtW Grant services is a current TANF recipient.
- The county will also certify to the WtW Grant partners if a current recipient has received TANF for 30 months or more.

19.1.2 Referrals:

- The county will refer to the WtW Grant Program TANF recipients who are eligible to participate whenever appropriate.
- The Department of Employment and Training will determine eligibility of individuals referred and will provide case management under the WtW Grant Program to eligible individuals.

19.2 WtW Grant eligibility criteria

- Category 1-- Hard-to-Employ (70 percent criterion)
- Category 2--characteristics of long-term welfare dependency (30 percent criterion)

19.3 Allowable WtW Grant Program activities

- Job Readiness
- Employment Activities
- Job Placement Services
- Post-Employment Services
- Job Retention Services and Supportive Services
- Individual Development Accounts
- Intake, assessment, eligibility determination, development of the individual CalWORKS welfare-to-work plan and case management may be incorporated in the design of any of the allowable activities listed above.